



New Horizons



Technical Sergeant Nicole Shininger, from East Meadow, New York, came to Offutt Air Force Base (AFB), Nebraska in May 1996. She currently serves as the Noncommissioned Officer-In-Charge of New Horizons. She received her Bachelor of Music Education degree in 1993 from State University of New York in Potsdam, New York. She then continued her education earning her Master of Music degree from Michigan State University in 1996. As well as being a fine clarinetist, Sergeant Shininger is also well versed on several other woodwind instruments including the bassoon, oboe and saxophone. Sergeant Shininger has studied with Elsa Ludewig-Verdehr, Frank Wangler, Alexander Ivanov, Kjell Svensson and Louis Rossi, and attended masterclasses by Larry Combs and Stanley Hasty.

Technical Sergeant Allison L. Baugh, joined the Heartland of America Band in March 2002. Sergeant Baugh has also served in the Heritage of America Band at Langley Air Force Base, Virginia and the United States Air Forces in Europe Band at Sembach Air Base, Germany. A native of Albuquerque, New Mexico. Sergeant Baugh attended New Mexico State University in Las Cruces, New Mexico and then transferred to the University of Arizona in Tucson where she earned a Bachelor of Music performance degree with distinction. Sergeant Baugh furthered her studies at the University of Missouri-Kansas City earning a Master of Music performance degree in 1989. Her principal teachers include Charles West and Patricia Kostek.

Staff Sergeant Kimberly T. Miller, from Crestwood, Kentucky, arrived at Offutt AFB, Nebraska in 1998. She earned a Bachelor of Music Education degree from Western Kentucky University at Bowling Green, Kentucky, in 1996. She then went on to earn a Master of Music degree in clarinet performance from Arizona State University, Tempe, Arizona, in 1998. Her teachers have included Robert Spring and Tod Kerstetter. She has performed with the Lyric Opera Theater Orchestra in Tempe, Arizona, the Mesa Symphony Orchestra and the Bowling Green Western Symphony Orchestra.

Staff Sergeant Crystal L. Proper, a native of West Seneca, New York, came to Offutt AFB, Nebraska in October 2005. She received her Bachelor of Music degree in clarinet performance from Houghton College in 2000. Sergeant Proper enlisted in the United States Air Force in May 2000 and was assigned to the United States Air Force Band of Flight, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio. She then transferred to the United States Air Force Academy Band, Peterson AFB, Colorado, before joining the Heartland of America Band. She is currently pursuing her Master of Music degree in clarinet performance from the University of Nebraska at Omaha, studying under Cynthia Nichols.

Staff Sergeant Susan Govier has been a member of the Heartland of America Band since October 2001. A native of Lakewood, Colorado, Sergeant Govier attended the University of Northern Colorado in Greeley where she graduated in 1999 with a Bachelor of Music degree in clarinet performance. Sergeant Govier continued her musical studies at Arizona State University in Tempe where she received a Master of Music degree in clarinet performance in 2001. Her principal teachers include Robert Spring, Tom Masse Bill Jackson and Don Ambler. She has performed with the Greeley Philharmonic Orchestra and the Belgian clarinet ensemble, Claribel.